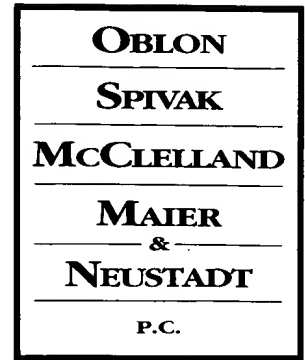




IFW



Docket No.: 197811US2
Date Allowed: 07/27/05

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/677,880
Applicants: Akihiro YOSHIDA, et al.
Filing Date: October 3, 2000
For: DIGITAL CAMERA...
Group Art Unit: 2615
Examiner: Aggarwal, Y.K.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Our check in the amount of - 0 - is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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DOCKET NO: 197811US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : DATE ALLOWED: 07/27/05
AKIHIRO YOSHIDA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: AGGARWAL, Y.K.
SERIAL NO: 09/677,880 :
FILED: OCTOBER 3, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2615
FOR: DIGITAL CAMERA WITH POWER :
SUPPLY FOR PIEZOELECTRIC
ELEMENT...

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

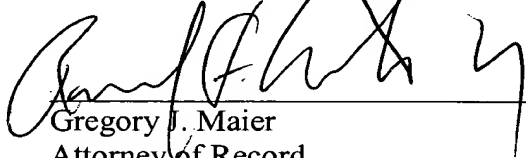
The Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance (included in paragraph 2 under the heading "Allowable Subject Matter" on page 2 that was included as an attachment to the "Notice of Allowability" (PTOL-37) that is in turn attached to the "NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE" mailed July 27, 2005) is believed to be improper.

In this regard, these "reasons for allowance" improperly suggest that independent Claims 3-12 contain exactly the same "control element" as recited by independent Claim 1 and require exactly the same functions to be performed as recited by independent Claim 1. However, the control units and or means for controlling of independent Claims 3-12 are not limited in this manner.

Accordingly, the above-noted Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is believed to be clearly in error and should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

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